9th August 1929]

(b) whether this information has been placed at the disposal of Messrs. Octavius Steel & Co. of Calcutta and of Messrs. Crompton Parkinson, Limited ; and

(c) if so, why this information was furnished to these English firms only and not to Indian firms or to the South Indian Chamber of Commerce ?

A.—(a) No.

(b) & (c) Do not arise.

Alleged aid by Collectors to Messrs. Octavius Steel & Co. of Calcutta.

*193 Q.—Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether the Government have advised by demi-official the Collectors of all the districts that they should render all help to Messrs. Octavius Steel & Co. of Calcutta, Messrs. Crompton Parkinson, Limited, and Messrs. Croft, Forbes and Chard, in connexion with the electrification schemes of towns in their districts ?

A.—No

Progress of hydro-electric schemes.

*194 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to place before the Council a statement showing the progress made in regard to various hydro-electric schemes, the financial provisions made therefor, the establishments sanctioned, and the various places to which electricity engendered is to be carried and with what probable success ?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to question No. 92 at the Legislative Council meeting held on 4th September 1928 in regard to the progress made on hydro-electric schemes. The present position is as follows :—

The Pykara scheme.—The Railway Board have not yet come to a decision in regard to the electrification of the South Indian Railway sections. The Government have decided to proceed with the scheme without awaiting the Railway Board's decision, and the Government of India have been addressed to obtain the Secretary of State's sanction to the execution of the scheme.

The Glen-Morgan scheme.—The construction of the scheme is rapidly progressing and work is expected to be completed in a few months.

The Papanasam scheme.—No decision has yet been arrived at in regard to this scheme. Attempts are being made to secure demand for a definite block of power to enable the scheme to be proceeded with.

The investigation of the *Kolab scheme* is in progress and a report from the Chief Engineer for Hydro-electric Development is awaited.

2. The financial provision made for hydro-electric schemes is given on pages 201–203 and 405 of the Civil Budget Estimate for 1929–30.

3. A statement showing the establishment sanctioned for the Hydro-electric Development department is attached.[a]

[a] Printed as Appendix VI on pages 435–436 infra.